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Wildwood City Commissioners Will Foreclose Its Tax Titles

City Has About \$100,000 Worth of Such Property,
Bought in at Tax Sales. Many Cement
Walk Street Corners Being Repaired.
Commissioners Doing Good Work
in This Respect

The third meeting of the Wildwood City Commissioners in the month of October was held last Tuesday, the 18th, beginning at 2 o'clock P. M., sharp. The day was ideal—perfect, in fact. The sun shone brightly and the air was bland—not too warm, not too cool—just right. When the poet Lowell sang the praises of June so fervently, saying that, "then, if ever come perfect days," he could not have meant to disparage the charms of fair October, whose golden hues and dreamy days appeal strongly to the most exacting taste. In the sisterhood of months it may be ventured to state, if a straw vote on preference were taken, the count would probably show that June and October had led the other ten by a wide margin and the result be almost a toss-up as to the winner. Thus it might be decided that the "end of a perfect day" does not always lie in June.

The mellow influences of the fair, autumnal day referred to (Tuesday last) seemed to penetrate even the commissioners' chamber and by its calm, inspiring spirit contributed materially toward making the business of the session move along snappily. Commissioners W. Courtright Smith, Alfred Taylor and Ralph Carl were present.

After roll call the minutes of the previous meeting were read and quickly disposed of. Then the customary weekly financial reports were asked for. In the tax collector's office, for the week prior, the sums received amounted to \$4,660.79. The inflow of water rents took a spurt that week and ran the total up to \$1,653.65. Of this total, the off and on fees were \$19 and penalties, \$4.35. Three new connections were made by the operating force at the following points:

On north side of Columbine road, East of railroad, for Mabel D. Kruger.

On north side of Rio Grande avenue, west of Park boulevard, for Lilly Price.

On Hand avenue, west of railroad, for Roswell Young.

The Mayor now remarked that the reading of communications was the next order of business. The first one to be heard was from Holly Council, Daughters of America, requesting that the chandeliers in the third floor room of third ward fire building be removed and a series of ceiling lights be substituted therefor.

"The reason for this request," the letter went on to say, "is that we have been greatly annoyed during initiations by some of the paraphernalia coming in contact with the chandeliers."

The next letter to be read was from the Byron Pennington Croker Post, No. 134, of the American Legion, informing the commissioners that at a recent meeting of the Post, the following resolution was offered and adopted:

"Be It Resolved, that Michael F. Sheehan be recommended to the Board of City Commissioners for the position of policeman in the first ward."

The resolution had been introduced, the communication stated, by Harry Jackson and was seconded by Leon Wheaton. The letter was signed by William S. Woods, Post Adjutant.

The recommendation was favorably received and acted upon the same day, the Mayor announcing the appointment of Mr. Sheehan as a member of the police force to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation, a short time ago, of Sherman E. Lockwood. A formal resolution was passed confirming this nomination and fixing the salary at the rate of \$110 per month, payable semi-monthly. November 1st was specified as the date at which the appointee shall go on duty.

A letter from Mrs. J. M. Sweet, owner of Sweet's block on the boardwalk, now claimed attention. She reminded the commissioners that "at the time of the exchange with Mr. Blaker of Ocean avenue, between Cedar and Schellenger avenue, for 20 feet of land along Atlantic avenue, a like proposition was made to my husband, Mr. Sweet; but on account of his death the exchange was not made. I now wish to dispose of all the lots in the block 152 and would like to make the exchange now, if the city wants the 20 feet necessary to widen Atlantic avenue. An early decision on your part will be greatly appreciated."

The matter was taken under advisement.

Mrs. Carrie Hughey, representing

the local order of the Daughters of America, appeared before the commissioners relative to improving the conditions and janitor service of the third ward hall, where the order meets. She complained that frequently electric lamps were missing in the room and because of this neglect to supply a sufficient number of lamps at all times, the business of the meetings was seriously interfered. She suggested a number of improvements that might be made in the hall that would add greatly to the comfort and convenience of all organizations paying rent for the use of this room. One of these suggestions was for the installation of a dumb waiter and another for the construction of a chute to convey to terra firma waste paper and other waste matter. She felt that a janitor should be on duty there every night when meetings are held.

Some comments were made by the Mayor on the various items spoken of, but no definite promises were held out that any radical change will be made in the arrangement of the hall at the present time. In regard to the lamps, assurance was given that that lack of service would be remedied.

Alexander McMurray, of Hotel Dayton, next addressed the commissioners on the subject of telegraphic communication. He wondered if the commissioners could do anything to induce the Western Union Co. to maintain an office here all the year round? He complained of the difficulties in the way of getting a message sent out of Wildwood during the fall and winter months. "The Penny and Reading operators," he said, "take messages, but only at their own convenience." He meant by this that they are not at their respective keys at all times—often only at train time. Mr. McMurray thought that the public is at a great disadvantage in consequence. He was informed by the Mayor that efforts had been made a number of times to obtain better telegraph service, but they were futile. "It is a matter of dollars and cents exclusively," was the only answer to all inquiries. Unless it can be shown that the Western Union can make money here by maintaining an office, to be open during business hours, every day in the year, there will be no hope of establishing a permanent service.

"Upon certificate of the collector of taxes that there be no unpaid taxes or municipal liens on record in his office, affecting lot No. 6, block No. 62, in third ward, it was deemed right and proper by the commissioners that a quit-claim deed should be given to Julia R. Mellor, covering any interest which the city may have therein by reason of former unpaid taxes." Authority to execute such a deed was granted by formal resolution.

The issuance of two more quit-claim deeds were duly authorized: one concerning lot 6, block 105, second ward, in favor of Anna Stanton Parkinson; the other affecting lot 25, block 17, third ward, to William J. Nolan.

One new ordinance was introduced, No. 125, and passed on first and second reading. This ordinance was no small affair; it was very elaborately drawn, and the reading of all the clauses and conditions consumed some minutes. It proposes the raising of \$15,000.00 more for use of the city water department in laying additional water mains and service pipes, together with the putting in of necessary plugs and the supplying of various connections and accessories. According to the terms of this ordinance, the money is to be raised at once by issuing, for discount, temporary improvement notes. These are to run one year or less at the option of the city and to bear 6 per cent interest. The ordinance arranges for the issuance of a \$15,000.00 bond issue later, when it shall be decided opportune to float same and call in the temporary note.

This ordinance will come up for final reading and passage on Tuesday, November 8th. Any taxpayer having any objections to offer at that time to the passage of this ordinance may be freely and fully heard.

By far the weightiest piece of legislation attempted at Tuesday's meeting was what we now proceed to quote:

"Whereas, there is now due the City of Wildwood, for taxes, a large sum of money, amounting to several thousand dollars, to which the city has

(Continued on Page Four)

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WILDWOOD : : NEW JERSEY

ANNOUNCEMENT

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